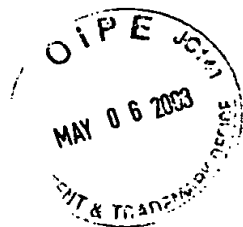


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re application of:

HU *et al.*

Appl. No.: (To be assigned; Rule 53(b)
Continuation of 09/048,242)

Filed: (Herewith)

For: **Nucleic Acid Ladders**

Art Unit: (To be assigned)

Examiner: (To be assigned)

Atty Docket: 0942.4340002/RWE/BJD

**Preliminary Amendment
and Submission of Substitute Sequence Listing**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In advance of prosecution in the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

In the specification at page 1, line 3, after "The present application" and before "claims" please insert -- is a continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/048,242, filed March 26, 1998, which --.

Please delete pages 21-23 (containing the sequence listing from the parent application) in their entirety. Please renumber the remaining pages accordingly.

After the abstract at page 31, and before the drawings, please insert the substitute sequence listing appended hereto (pages 1-3).